

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants herewith respond to the Office Action mailed August 22, 2006.

A three-month extension petition is requested for responding to the said Office Action.

Claims 1 through 54 have been canceled.

Claims 55 through 58 are pending in this application.

Claims 55 and 56 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced by the amendment to this claim.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b):**

The Examiner rejects claims 55 and 56 as being anticipated by Weiss et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,165,783).

Specifically, the Examiner stated that claims 55 and 56 are broadly directed to a method for promoting neurite outgrowth in a cell culture (i.e., any cell culture which is not defined, and as such would read on EPO), comprising administering to said cell culture an effective amount of a peptide **comprising** one or more monomeric peptides, wherein each of said monomeric peptides comprises a sequence independently selected from SEQ ID NO:8; SEQ ID NO:19; SEQ ID NO:20; SEQ ID NO:21; SEQ ID NO:17.

Applicants have amended claims 55 and 56. The amended claims do not read on EPO. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):**

Claims 57 and 58 are rejected as being unpatentable over Weiss et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,165,783) taken with Sakanaka et al. (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, Vol. 95, pp. 4735-4640, April 1998).

As stated above, claim 55 has been amended. Therefore, claims 57 and 58 are also amended. For the same reason as stated in the section rejection 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), claims 57 and 58 are not obvious over Weiss et al., in view of Sakanaka, et al.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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